

Arizona Interagency Coordinating Group Charter

Successful implementation of the National Fire Plan and 10-Year Comprehensive Strategy is a top priority for the U.S. Department of Agriculture and Department of Interior, the Governor of Arizona, and Arizona tribes. We are committed to collaborative and cooperative approaches and processes to implement the common purposes articulated in the Comprehensive Strategy and National Fire Plan. The Arizona Interagency Coordinating Group (AICG) is organized to ensure collaboration and cooperation among the Federal, State, and tribal partner agencies during the implementation of the 10-Year Comprehensive Strategy and the National Fire Plan.

The AICG will report to the Southwest Coordinating Group (SWCG). The Southwest Coordinating Group Chair will keep the Southwest Strategy Regional Executive Committee briefed as needed.

Role of the Arizona Interagency Coordinating Group

1. Facilitate collaboration and cooperation, priority setting, and accountability for and implementation of the Southwest Regional and National Fire Plan(s), and 10-Year Comprehensive Strategy as they pertain to wildland fire, hazardous fuels, and ecosystem restoration and rehabilitation on Federal, State, tribal and private forest and range lands in Arizona.
2. Provide a forum for discussing and resolving issues affecting Arizona's wildland fire management programs as identified by the Arizona Interagency Fire Management Zone Boards, and the SWCG.
3. Develop, as requested by the SWCG, consensus on Arizona fire management problems and programs.
4. Facilitate collaboration, cooperation and communications on statewide air quality and smoke management issues.

Specific Actions of the Arizona Interagency Coordinating Group

- Facilitate resolution of interagency issues related to the roles of the Group that may arise at the statewide level;
- Identify efficient and effective procedures to assist field offices and eliminate ongoing or potential duplications of effort;
- Encourage partner agencies to "speak with one voice" in coordinated public information and education efforts;

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- Keep the Arizona Interagency Fire Management Zone Boards, the SWCG, and the Arizona Governor's Forest Health and Fire Plan Advisory Committee apprised of progress in implementing the National Fire Plan, and 10-Year Comprehensive Strategy using existing data systems.
- Support the Interagency Air and Smoke Management Liaison program. The program managers will develop an annual operating plan that will discuss funding and the annual program of work for Arizona Federal Wildland Agencies and coordination with the Arizona State Land Department that will be included in the Annual Operating Plan for AICG.
- Activate, deactivate, and support subcommittees and working teams. Active subcommittees and working teams shall submit to AICG a program of work.

The membership of the AICG shall consist of all Federal, and State agencies, and the Intertribal Council of Arizona with statewide responsibilities for implementing the National Fire Plan and 10-Year Comprehensive Strategy. Each agency/entity will appoint a formal member of the Coordinating Group, but may send another representative to meetings when the formal member is unable to attend. The primary membership is one representative from each of the following agencies:

Arizona State Forestry
Bureau of Land Management – Arizona State Office
Bureau of Indian Affairs – Western Regional Office
National Park Service – Intermountain Regional Office
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service – Southwest Regional Office
Intertribal Council of Arizona
U.S. Forest Service – Arizona Forests Representative
Bureau of Indian Affairs – Navajo Regional Office

The Arizona Interagency Smoke Management Program Manager, the Zone Board Chairs from each Arizona Interagency Fire Management Zone, and other interested groups may have a representative in attendance at the AICG meetings as needed to facilitate the collaboration and cooperation for the implementation of the National Fire Plan, 10-Year Comprehensive Strategy, and management of smoke from wildland and prescribed fires per Arizona Administrative Register Title 18 Environmental Quality, Section R18-2-1501 (Forest and Range Management Burns) and R18-2-602 (Open Burning Rules).

Administration of the Arizona Interagency Coordinating Group

The Coordinating Group will meet quarterly. However, special meetings may be called as necessary, at the request of any member. Polling members in advance of meetings will identify agenda items.

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The Chair will be held for two years with a rotation occurring during the fall meeting in even number years. Chair rotation will be as follows: Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, National Park Service, Forest Service, AZ State Forestry, Bureau of Land Management. The Chair is responsible for convening Group meetings and preparing any records and reports.

The Vice-chair will be the agency representative following the Chair on the membership list above and will fulfill the duties of the Chair as needed. The Vice-Chair will advance to the Chair at the conclusion of the Chair's term in office.

Costs associated with individual agency travel, per diem, communications, supplies, and equipment will be the responsibility of each agency.

The term of the Charter will be five years, beginning with federal fiscal year 2005, and is renewable at the end of each five-year period by approval of the SWCG and by completing a new signature page. Amendments to this charter may be made at any time, subject to the written concurrence and approval of all agencies.

6/12/2006

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Attachment 1

Southwest Strategy Regional Executive Committee

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Southwest Coordinating Group

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Arizona Interagency
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AICG Subcommittees

- Arizona Firewise
- Air Resource and Smoke Mgt.

/S/ PAM MCALPIN

Pam McAlpin

Chair Southwest Coordinating Group

Date